

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
FIRE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
MARCH 2002**

OFFICE OF THE FIRE ADMINISTRATOR

Commission Office

The following items were discussed at the March 14, 2002 meeting of the Fire and Rescue Commission:

- The Commissioners were provided with a copy of a memo sent to the County Executive and the County Council which provided comments on the Fire Administrator's proposed MCFRS Operating Budget for FY03.
- The Commission was provided with an update on the County Executive's recommended FY03 Operating Budget for the MCFRS which is being transmitted to the County Council.
- The Commission was provided with a draft work program outlining initiatives to create or revise FRC policies and regulations.
- An update was provided on the status of the drought affecting the region.
- A follow-up was provided regarding the actions taken to improve the processing of volunteer physical exams at Fire and Rescue Occupational Medical Services (FROMS).
- A brief summary of the findings from the internal audit performed the Department of Finance concerning Senator Amoss Funds was provided.
- Procedures concerning the MCFRS activities at the Montgomery County Fair were distributed.
- A resolution which approved recommendations from the Operations Committee concerning the *Aerial Unit Study* was adopted.
- A resolution which approved revisions to the *Command Officer Professional Development/Improvement Policy* was adopted.
- A resolution drafted by Commissioner Sterling and introduced by Commissioner Marco raising concern regarding the affect of the collective bargaining process on the FRC apparatus graphics policy was not adopted.

Research and Planning

Emergency Management

Community Education Safety Section

Corporate Development Services

Automation Section

Fleet and Facilities Section

- Work continues to be coordinated with the LFRDs, individual fire/rescue stations, the PS 2000 project, and the contractors to outfit each station with appropriate electrical outlets to power PS 2000-related equipment.
- Many of the issues surrounding the Takoma Park fire station replacement project are reaching resolution. Design of the new station is continuing.

- Master planning of the site for the Silver Spring fire station replacement continues. Additional funding is being requested for the design of this multi-use site.
- An RFP was issued for the replacement of Bethesda AT20. Proposals are due in April.

Grants Management Section

DFRS Property Section

- Processed 261 storeroom transactions during the month.
- Evaluated bids submitted under a formal, multi-agency procurement solicitation for uniform shoes. Submitted recommendation to Office of Procurement Director regarding contract award.
- Met with CDS Section Chief and representatives from Tyco and Allsafe Fire Equipment regarding existing contracts for SCBA and firefighting helmets.
- Assisted Roeder Road project coordinators with loaner PPE for use by on-site instructors.
- Met with representatives from Total Fire Group and National Fire Logistics to discuss product offerings.
- Assisted Germantown VFD with alpha-numeric pager programming. Assisted MCPS Safety Office with questions regarding alpha-numeric paging and paging software.
- Coordinated fitting session with contractor for Code Enforcement Section coveralls.

DIVISION OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

Bureau of Operations

Administration

Safety

Specialty Teams

Collapse Rescue/Urban Search and Rescue;

Swiftwater Rescue Team

Bureau of Program Support Services

Administration

Communications

January 2002

Total Telephone Calls Received: 31,385
 Total 9-1-1 Calls Received: 9,991
 Total Admin Calls Received: 20,874

- FF Karen Stitely and FF Michael Ruth attended an Emergency Medical Dispatch training course and have been certified by the National Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch.
- Maureen Morello attended Mid-Eastern Chapter of Association of Public-Safety

- Communications Officials, International meeting.
- Communications staff attended various PS2000 project meetings.
- Two employees completed the entry level screening processes.

February 2002

Total Telephone Calls Received: 27,675
 Total 9-1-1 Calls Received: 8,485
 Total Admin Calls Received: 18,801

- MFF Marc Worton and Lt. Chris Stroup attended a Communications Training Officer course.
- Interviews for the Communications Training position were conducted.
- Lt. Chris Stroup returned to Operations.
- Communications staff attended various PS2000 project meetings.
- Maureen Morello and A/C Mike Love attended an EMD Consensus Meeting at MIEMSS.
- Dist. Chief Charles Patullo taught an EMG Communications class.
- FF Chris German, MFF Michele Ruth, FF Mike Baltrosky, MFF Steve Suddath, MFF Marc Worton, Lt. Ray Henry, MFF Pete Corte, FF Carla Myers, FF John Lewis and FF Eddy Wiles have been nominated for the Mid-Eastern Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials "Telecommunicator of the Year" award. The winner of the award will be honored at the APCO Spring Chapter meeting in Dover, DE on April 18, 2002.

March 2002

Total Telephone Calls Received: 29,866
 Total 9-1-1 Calls Received: 9,816
 Total Admin Calls Received: 19,647

- Dist Chief Charles Patullo with HHS went to Delaware Emergency Management Association to evaluate their EOC.
- Staff assisted with the Factory Acceptance Testing for the CAD system.
- Communications staff attended various PS2000 project meetings.
- Walk-through tours of the new facility were conducted by members of the Agency Relations Committee on March 20, 2002.
- Maureen Morello and Lt. Tracy Coleman met with Verizon and Plant to discuss ACD\911 callflow.

Training

In March the 41 members of Recruit Class #21 were in EMT-Basic class or going through the process to become certified as a Montgomery County EMT-Paramedic. The recruits are scheduled to begin Essentials of Firefighting on April 1st.

The new Symtron Live Fire Simulator that was installed in the Burn Building in February was used for Recruit Class #21 and Essentials of Firefighting #02-2 classes in March.

Exams completed for Emergency Vehicle Driver Testing in March are:

Written 12

Twenty-nine sessions of the Chem-Bio In-Service Training Program were held in March with 290 MCFRS personnel and 377 MCPD personnel attending.

EMT-Paramedic Class #23 (nighttime) continues with 26 students and EMT-Paramedic Class #24 (daytime) continues with 22 students.

One volunteer EMT-Paramedic was awarded charge status in March.

Bureau of Life Safety Services

Administration

Fire Code Enforcement

- Issued 30 Civil Citations and numerous violations
- Began the school inspections with the primary focus on non-sprinklered schools. 36 schools completed.
- In the process of automating the office with laptops so that field inspectors can access building history.
- Two inspectors are at the NFA for training.
- The majority of Code Enforcement has completed the MFRI fire alarm class.
- On April 17, 2002, Montgomery County will adopt the National Building Code.
- In the process of modifying the fees for permits.

Fire and Explosive Investigation

In March, Fire and Explosive Investigators investigated 16 accidental fires and 14 criminal fire related incidents. The Bomb Squad responded to a total of 25 explosive / suspicious package / letter, threat incidents. The total estimated dollar loss for accidental fires was \$ 1,088,500 and \$ 43,020 for criminal fire related incidents.

Lt. Shaw and his K-9 partner Hank were requested and responded for a suspicious fire in Prince George County.

Several juvenile arrests were made this month in connection with incendiary fires.

Bomb Squad training was provided to personnel at Fire Station 28.

DIVISION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

- Participated in 3 volunteer graduating classes at the PSTA
- Attended and participated in the Greater Olney Civic Association annual awards ceremony
- Attended further budget meetings
- Attended a Naval presentation in the CE conference room for participants of the 9-11-02 response

- Attended a Bio-chemical terrorism meeting
- Worked on Sta. 17 issues with Chief Strock, F. Welsh and Chief Musgrove
- Met with representatives for the upcoming Fair
- Met with F. Welsh and T. Hale concerning OMS and field issues
- Met with the Fire Administrator and F. Welsh on a variety of DVFRS issues
- Attended a Water Supply meeting and update
- Attended the CE presentation at the Bethesda District, MCPD, regarding Homeland Security and the 9-11-02 remembrance service
- Participated in grants awards meetings
- Attended the Quarterly Leadership Forum
- Participated, with Chief Strock, in unit citations at the B-CCRS and Sta. 1
- Attended a meeting with the Fire Administrator, D/C Boozer, L. Moss, DEP, Bob Kidd regarding environmental committee issues
- Attended the Valor Awards Committee meeting
- Participated in a "Border Chiefs" meeting at the Urbana VFD
- Attended a presentation on the Dickerson Plant update
- Attended the Chiefs Executive Advisory meeting
- Attended the COG Fire Chiefs Committee meeting
- Attended a briefing session with Council staff (M. Davidson) regarding budget questions/concerns
- Conducted a review meeting with 12 floor staff regarding the LOSAP proposal
- Had a walk through tour of the Roeder Rd. training site
- Attended the Fire Board, Human Relations, Safety and Training, Fire and Rescue Commission, Fire and Rescue Association and Operations Committee meetings.
- Mediated personal, personnel and/or sensitive issues with various LFRDs, etc.